

OXFORD OBSERVER.

"LOVE ALL, DO WRONG TO NONE, BE CHECK'D FOR SILENCE BUT NEVER TAX'D FOR SPEECH." SHAKESPEARE.

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THE REFLECTOR.

VANITY INSCRIBED ON ALL THINGS.

Time, like a long flowing stream, makes haste into eternity and is forever lost and swallowed up there; and, while it is hastening to its period, it sweeps away all things with it which are not immortal. There is a limit appointed by Providence to the duration of all the pleasant and desirable scenes of life, to all the works of the hands of men, with all the glories and excellencies of animal nature, and all that is made of flesh and blood. Let us not doat upon any thing here below, for Heaven hath inscribed vanity upon it. The moment is hastening when the decree of Heaven shall be uttered, and Providence shall pronounce upon every glory of the earth, "Its time shall be no longer."

What is that stately building, that princely palace, which now entertains and amuses our sight with ranks of marble columns, and wide spreading arches, that gay edifice which enriches our imagination with a thousand royal ornaments, and a profusion of costly and glittering furniture? Time and all its circling hours, with a swift wing are brushing it away; decay steals upon it insensibly, and a few years hence it shall lie in mouldering ruin and desolation. Unhappy possessor, if he have no better inheritance!

What are those fine and elegant gardens, those delightful walks, those gentle ascents and soft declining slopes, which raise and sink the eye by turns to a thousand vegetable pleasures? How lovely are those sweet borders, and those growing varieties of bloom and fruit, which recall lost paradise to mind! Those lovely parterres which regale the sense with vital fragrance, and make glad the sight by their refreshing verdure and intermingled flowery beauties! The scythe of time is passing over them all; they wither, they die away, they drop and vanish into dust, their duration is short; a few months deface all their yearly glories, and within a few years, perhaps all these gentle terraces, walks, those gentle verging declivities, shall lose all order and elegance and become a rugged heap of ruins: those well distinguished borders and parterres shall be levelled in confusion, and thrown into common earth again, for the ox and the ass to graze upon. Unhappy man, who possesses this agreeable spot of ground, if he have no paradise more durable than this!

And no wonder that these labors of the hands of men should perish, when even the works of God are perishable!

What are those visible heavens, those lower skies, and this globe of the earth? They are indeed the glorious workmanship of the Almighty. But they are waxing old, and waiting their period too, when the angel shall pronounce upon them that time shall be no more. The heavens shall be folded up as a vesture, the elements of the lower world shall melt with a fervent heat, and the earth, and all the works thereof, shall be burned with fire. May the unruinable world be my portion, and the heaven of heavens my inheritance, which is built for an eternal mansion for the sons of God: These buildings shall outlive time and nature, and exist through unknown ages of felicity.

Sympathy.—It is a pure stream that swells the tide of sympathy; it is an excellent heart that interests itself in the feelings of others—it is a heaven-like disposition that engages the affections and extorts a sympathetic tear for the misfortunes of a friend.—Mankind are ever subject to ills, infirmities and disappointments.—Every breast, at some particular period, experiences sorrow and distress. Pains and perplexities are the long-lived plagues of human existence; but sympathy is the balm that heals these wounds. If a person who has lost a precious friend, can find another who will feelingly participate in his misfortunes, he is richly compensated for his loss—and delightful is the task to a feeling mind of softening the pillow of the sick, amusing the unhappy, and alleviating the tortures of the afflicted.

COPY OF A PETITION

From the Princess ALI CHAN, in the East Indies, to Governor-General Hastings, in behalf of her husband, whom the Governor had sentenced to death.

[This petition is written in the most affecting strain, but was not granted.]

Most Mighty Sir: May the blessings of thy God ever wait on thee! May the son of glory shine around thy head; and may the gates of plenty, honor, and happiness, be always open unto thee and thine. May no sorrow distress thy days, may no grief distress thy nights, may the pillows of peace kiss thy cheeks, and the pleasures of imagination attend thy dreams; and when length of years makes thee tired of earthly things, and the curtain of death gently closes the last sleep of existence, may the angels of God attend thy bed, and take care that the expiring lamp of life shall not receive one rude blast to hasten its departure. O hearken then to the voice of distress and grant the petition of thy servant. Spare, O spare the Father of my children, my husband, my all that is dear. Consider, O Mighty Sir! that he did not become rich by iniquity, and that what he possessed was the inheritance of a long line of flourishing ancestors, who, in those smiling days when

the thunder of Great Britain was not heard on the plains of Indostan, reaped their harvest in quiet, enjoyed their patrimony unmolested. Think, O think that the God whom thou worshippest delights not in the blood of the innocent. Remember thine own commandment: "Thou shalt not kill," and obey the orders of Heaven. Give me back my Alms Ali-chan, and take all our wealth, strip us of our jewels, and precious stones, of our gold and our silver, but take not away the life of my husband. Innocence is seated on his brow, and the milk of human kindness flows around his heart. Let us go wandering through the desert, let us become tillers and laborers in those delightful spots, in which we once were Lords and Masters, but spare! O spare, Mighty Sir, his life. Let not the instrument of death be lifted up against him, for he has committed no crime. Accept our treasures with gratitude, thou hast them at present by force. We will remember thee in our prayers, and forget thee. My children beseech for the author of their existence, by that humanity which we have been told glows in the breast of European loveliness, by the tender mercies of the enlightened souls of Englishmen; by the honor, the virtue, the honesty, and the maternal feeling so dear to her, the miserable wife of this prisoner, beseeches thee to save her husband's life, and restore him to her arms. Thy God will reward thee, thy country will thank thee, and she, now petitioning, will ever pray for thee, if thou grantest the prayers of thy most humble vassal.

ALMAS ALI-CHAN.

THE REPOSITORY.

FROM THE NEW-ENGLAND GALAXY.

THAT GENTLEMAN.

Among the passengers on board the steam-boat Chancery Livingston, on one of her trips up the North River, last year, was observed by the Captain, a middle aged gentleman, whose appearance attracted notice, but whose person and quality were unknown to him. The stranger was dressed in the last, and best made clothing, but without being in the extreme of fashion, or conspicuous for any thing that he did or did not wear. He had not, however, availed himself of the apology of travelling, as many do, to neglect the most scrupulous care of his person, and seemed rather to be on a visit, than on a journey. His equipage had been noticed by the porters to correspond with its owner, in appearance. The trunk was made to increase or diminish in capacity, the upper part rising on the under by screws, according to the contents; the whole of it was enveloped in a firm canvas. A cloak-bag of the best construction; a writing apparatus, with a most inscrutable lock; an umbrella in a neat case; a hat in another, ready to take the place of the travelling seal-skin cap, which the stranger wore during the trip; were so many indications of a man, who placed the happiness of life in the enjoyment of his comforts. The greatest of all comforts is yet to be told, and was in attendance upon him, in the shape of a first-rate servant, a yellow man by complexion, taciturn, active and gentle; just not too obsequious, and just not too familiar; not above the name of servant, and well deserving that of friend.

This strange gentleman was quiet, moderate in his movements, rather reserved in his manner; all real gentlemen are so. A shade of melancholy settled over his face, but rather lightening into satisfaction, than dark and ominous of growing sorrow. It was a countenance, which care had furrowed, but in which the fruitful seeds of grief were not planted. There was a timid look of one, that had been deceived by appearances, and feared to trust himself to an exterior, that might betray his heart into a misplaced confidence. There was an expression, which one might almost call sly, of a man, who had at length found a secret treasure, which he would not expose, lest it should be torn from him, or he should be disturbed in its enjoyment. Of the beauties of the scene, though plainly a man of cultivated mind, he took but little notice. He cast an eye of equal indifference on nature's Cyclopean masonry at the Palisades, and on the elegant erections of art, on the opposite bank of the river. Even the noble entrance into the Highlands scarcely fixed his attention.

With all the appearance of a perfect gentleman, there was, nevertheless, conspicuous about his person, a punctuality in obeying the bell, which summoned to the meals, and a satisfaction while at them, which evidently proceeded from some particular association of ideas, to which the spectator wanted the key. It was not ravening appetite; it was not the want of being accustomed at home to what are commonly, and we think correctly, called "good things." His whole appearance negatived any such idea. But he repaired to the table with a cheerful and active step, as if he were sure he should find things as they ought to be. He partook of his provisions as if he had found them so. He did not praise the abundance and good quality of what he saw and enjoyed; but maintained the same rather mysterious silence here, as elsewhere on board; but the expression of calm, inward satisfaction, which reigned in his face, spoke volumes. In like manner, with respect to every other part of domestic economy of the steam-boat, the commodious births, the conveniences of the washing apparatus, and of the barber's shop; the boot-brushing quarters, in short, all the needless accommodations and necessities, which will suggest themselves, without being specified; in regard to them all, you might read in the stranger's looks and mien, that he was perfectly satisfied; and for some reason, which did not suggest itself from want of knowledge of history, he evidently enjoyed this satisfaction, with a peculiar relish. In fact, the only words, that had been heard to escape from "that gentleman," for so the Captain had called him, in pointing him out to the steward, and so the barber had called him in speaking of him to the cook; and so the engineer had designated him, in describing his looks to the fireman; the only words, which "that gentleman," had been heard to utter, to any one on board, were his remarks to the Captain, after having finished his tour of observation round the boat—"very convenient, very comfortable."

As they drew near to Albany, this air of satisfaction was evidently clouded. Nothing adverse had happened on board. The boat walked cheerfully through the water, at the rate of eleven miles and a

half per hour. Mr. Survale, the engineer, was heard to say, that he could double her steam, without coming near her proof; but then, he added to the fireman "what good would that do, seeing the resistance of the water increases, with the velocity of the boat;" a remark, to which the fireman returned, what may be called, a very *unknown* look. The weather was fine; the company generally exhilarated with arriving at the journey's end; and all but the stranger rising in spirits, as they drew near to the landing place. He, on the contrary, proceeded about the business of disembarking, with the only discontented look, which he had worn during the trip.

But in the crowd and hurry of landing two hundred and fifty passengers, with as many trunks and baggage, and the tumult of conflicting porters, draymen, hackmen, and greeting of friends, the stranger was determined to keep an eye upon him; an idea having got abroad that he was a member of Parliament, or some said the Duke of Saxe Weimar, which the engineer averred, with an oath, to be the case, adding that "it was devilish hard, if he could not tell a Frenchman." It so happened, however, that every man on board had an object of greater interest to look after in the crowd, viz. himself,—and which course the stranger took on landing, no one could say.

It was not long, before the Captain discovered that the stranger had not gone on shore, for he perceived him occupying a retired seat on the transom, aft in the cabin, observed that his cloak-bag was reinstated in his berth; and that he appeared to intend returning to New-York the next trip. His countenance had recovered its prevailing expression, and he just opened his lips to say, "he believed he should take the boat back." Various speculations, no doubt, were made by the Captain, the steward, the engineer, and the fireman, on a circumstance, upon the whole, so singular: but recollecting his clouded aspect, as he approached Albany, they came to the conclusion, that he had forgotten something of importance in New-York; that the recollection of it did not return to him, till near the arrival of the boat; and that he was now obliged, in consequence, to go down the river again. "You see 'that gentleman' again," said the engineer to the fireman. "I do," replied Mr. Manscald. "I suppose he has forgotten some closed dialogue which the ingenious author of the Spy and the Pilot, would have spun out into three pages."

The stranger's demeanor, on the return, was the exact counterpart of that, which he had worn on the ascent; calm, satisfied and retired; perfectly at ease; a mind and senses, formed to enjoy, reposing in the full possession of their objects. "To describe his manner more minutely, would be merely to repeat what we have already said, in the former part of this account. But the hypothesis, by which the engineer and the fireman had accounted for his return, and for his melancholy looks, at Albany, was overthrown, by the extraordinary fact, that as they drew near to New-York, his countenance was overshadowed by the same clouds, which had before darkened it. He was even more perplexed in spirit, than he had before seemed; and he ordered his servant to look to the baggage, with a pettishness, that contrasted strangely with his calm deportment. The engineer, who had noticed this, was determined to watch him closely; and the fireman swore he would follow him to the head of Courtland-street. But just as the steam-boat was rounding into the slip, a sloop was descending the river, with wind and tide; some danger of collision arose; it was necessary the engineer should throw his wheels back with all possible expedition. This event threw the fireman into a little confusion, succeeded by some remarks of admiration, at the precision with which the engine worked, and the boast of the fireman, "How sweetly she went over her centres." This bustle below was followed by that of arriving; the usual throng of friends, porters, passengers, draymen, hackmen, and barrowmen, breasting each other on the deck, on the plank which led from the boat, on the slip, and in the street, completed the momentary confusion; and when the engineer and fireman had re-adjusted their apartment, they burst out at once on each other, with the question and reply "Did you see which way 'that gentleman' went?" "Damn it, no." The Captain and the steward were in much the same predicament, "I meant to have had an eye after 'that gentleman,'" said the Captain, "but he has given me the slip."

It was accordingly with a good deal of surprise, that on descending the cabin, he again saw the stranger, in his old place; again prepared, to all appearance, to go back to Albany, and again heard from him the short remark, "I believe, I shall take the boat back." But the Captain was well-bred, and the stranger was a good customer; so that no look escaped the former, expressive of the sentiments, which this singular conduct excited in him. The same decorum, however, did not restrain the engineer and fireman. As soon as they perceived the stranger, on his accustomed travels up and down the deck, the engineer cried out, with a preliminary ostentation, which we do not care to repeat, "Mr. Manscald, do you see 'that gentleman'?" "Aye, aye," was the answer, "who can he be?" "Tut, tut, if you can," rejoined the engineer; "it's tant every man that's willing to be known for my own part, I believe it's Bolivar come to tap the dam over the Mohawk, and let the Kanol waste out." The fireman modestly inquired his reason for thinking it was Bolivar, but the engineer, a little piqued at having his judgment questioned, merely muttered, that "it was hard, if he could not tell a Frenchman."

During the passage, nothing escaped the stranger, that betrayed his history or errand; nor yet was there any affectation of mystery or concealment. A close observer would have inferred (as is said to be the case with Free Masonry) that no secret escaped him, because there was none to escape; that his conduct, though not to be accounted for by those unacquainted with him, was probably consistent with the laws of human nature, and the principles of a gentleman. It is precisely, however, a case like this, which most stimulates the curiosity and awakens the suspicion of common men. They think the natural unaltered air, but a deeper disguise; and it cannot be concealed that, in the course of this third passage, very hard allusions were made between the engineer and the fireman, to Major Andre's character, as a spy. The sight of West-Point, probably awakened this reminiscence in the mind of the engineer, who, in the ardor of his patriotic feelings, forgot that it was a time of peace. The fireman was beginning to throw out a submissive hint, that he did not know "that, in the time of peace, even an Englishman could be hung for going to West-Point;" but the engineer interrupted him, and expressed his belief, with an oath, that "if General Jackson could catch 'that gentleman,' (as he now called him, with a little sneer on the word,) he would, he would,

hang him, under the second article of the rules of war." "For all me," meekly responded the fireman, and shouldered a stick of pine into the furnace.

It is remarked by authors, who have spoken on the subject of juggling, that the very intensity, with which the audience eyes the juggler, facilitates his deceptions. He has but to give their eyes and their thoughts a slight misdirection, and then he may, for a moment, do any thing almost unobserved, in full view. A vague impression, growing out of the loose conversation in the fire-room, had prevailed among the attendants and others employed in the boat, that the gentleman was a foreigner, going to explore, if not tap, the Canal. With this view, they felt no doubt he would land at Albany; a lookout was kept for him, and though he was unnoticed in the throng at the place of disembarking, it was ascribed to the thought that he was unnoticed. "I tell you, you'll hear mischief from that gentleman, yet," said the engineer, throwing off his steam.

What then, was their astonishment, and even that of the Captain and steward, to find again that the stranger was still in the cabin, and prepared to all appearance to go back to New-York. The Captain, felt he hardly knew how; we may call it *queer*. He stifled, however, his uneasy emotions, and endeavored to bow respectfully to the stranger's usual remark, "I believe, Captain, I shall take the boat back." Aware of the busy speculation, which had already begun to express itself in the fire-room, he requested the steward not to let it be known, that "that gentleman" was going down again; and it remained a secret, till the boat was under way. About half an hour after it had started, the gentleman left the cabin, to take one of his walks on deck, and in passing along was seen, at the same instant, by the engineer and fireman. For a moment, they looked at each other with an expression, in which displeasure and resolution were strongly mixed; not a word was said by either; but the fireman dropped a huge stick of pine, that he was shouldering, into the furnace; and the engineer as promptly took the steam out of the engine, and brought the wheels to a stand. The Captain, of course, rushed forward to know if the boiler had collapsed, (the modern polite word for *bursting*.) and met the desperate engineer coming up, to speak for himself. "Captain," said he, with a kind of high pressure movement of his arm, "I have kept up steam, ever since there was such a thing on the river. Copper boiler or iron, high pressure or low; give me the packing of my own cylinder, and I'll knock under to no man, but if we are to have 'that gentleman,' up and down, down and up, up and down again, like a sixty horse piston, I know one, that won't raise another inch of steam, if he starves for it."

The unconscious subject of this tumult had already retreated to his post in the cabin, before the scene began; and was luckily ignorant of the trouble he was causing. The Captain, who was a prudent man, spoke in a conciliating tone to the engineer; promised to ask the stranger roundly, who he was, and what was his business, and if he found the least cause of dissatisfaction, to set him ashore at Newburgh. The mollified engineer returned to his department; the fireman shouldered a huge stick of pine into the furnace, the steam rushed into the cylinder, and the boat was soon moving her twelve knots an hour on the river.

The Captain in the extremity of the moment, had promised what he found it hard to perform; and now experienced a sensible palpitation, as he drew near to the stranger, to acquit the obligation he had hastily assumed. The truth is, the Captain, had already begun to surmise the true state of the case; he had noticed the distrustful looks of the crew, and the dubious expression of the Captain and steward. As the former approached him, he determined to relieve the embarrassment, under which, it was plain, he was going to address him; and said "I perceive, sir, you are at a loss, to account for my remaining on board the boat, for so many successive trips, and if I mistake not, your people view me with suspicious eyes. The truth is, Captain, I believe I shall pass the summer with you."

The stranger paused to notice (somewhat wickedly) the effect of this intelligence on the Captain, whose eyes began to grow round at the intimation; but in a moment pursued:—

"You must know, Captain, I am one of those persons—favored I will not say—who, being above the necessity of laboring for subsistence, are obliged to resort to some extraordinary means to get through the year. I am a Carolinian, and pass my summers in travelling. I have been obliged to come by land, for the sake of seeing friends and transacting business by the way. Did you ever, Captain, travel by land from Charleston to Philadelphia?"

The Captain shook his head, in the negative.—"You may thank heaven for that. O, Captain! the crazy stages, the vile roads, rivers to be forded, sands to be ploughed through, the discomforts of the inn, the crowd, the noise, the heat—but I must not dwell on it. Suffice it to say, I have suffered every thing, both moving and stationary. I have been overturned and had my shoulder dislocated in Virginia; I have been robbed between Baltimore and Havre de Grace. At Philadelphia, I have had my place in the mail stage taken up by a way passenger; I have been stowed by the side of a drunken Irishman in New-Jersey; I have been beguiled into a fashionable boarding-house, in the crowded seasons, in New-York. Once I have had to sit on a bag of turkeys, which was going to the stage proprietor, who was also keeper of a hotel; three rheumatic fevers I have caught, by riding in the night, against a window that would not close; near Elkton, was I washed away in a gully, and three horses drowned; at Saratoga, I have been suffocated; at Montreal, eaten of fleas; in short, Captain, I have, in the pursuit of pleasure, suffered the pains of purgatory. For the first time in my life, I have met true comfort, ease and enjoyment on board the Chancery. I was following the multitude to the Springs. As I drew near to Albany, my heart sunk within me, at the thoughts of the little prison, in which I should be shut up, in one of the fashionable hotels. In the very moment of landing, my courage failed me, and I returned to the comforts of another trip, in your excellent boat. We went down to New-York; I was about to step on shore, and saw a well dressed gentleman run down by a swim, in my sight. I shrunk back again into your cabin, where I have found such accommodations, as I have never before met, away from home; and if you are not unwilling to have a season passenger, I intend to pass the ensuing three months on board your boat."

The Captain bowed; gratified, and ashamed at his suspicions. He hurried up to put the engineer at ease, who was not less gratified at the high opinion the stranger entertained of the Chancery, and as long as the boat continued to ply for the rest of the season, was used to remark, at least once a trip, to the fireman, "that gentleman knows what's what."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1825.
The President of the United States transmitted, this day, to both Houses of Congress, by the hands of Mr. JOHN ADAMS, Junior, the following

Message:

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate,
and of the House of Representatives:

In taking a general survey of the concerns of our beloved country, with reference to subjects interesting to the common welfare, the first sentiment which impresses itself upon the mind, is, of gratitude to the Omnipotent Dispenser of all Good, for the continuance of the signal blessings of his Providence, and especially for that health which, to an unusual extent, has prevailed within our borders; and for that abundance which, in the vicissitudes of the seasons has been scattered, with profusion, over our land. Nor ought we least to ascribe to Him the glory, that we are permitted to enjoy the bounties of His hand in peace and tranquillity—in peace with all the other nations of the earth, in tranquillity among ourselves. There has, indeed, rarely been a period in the history of civilized man, in which the general condition of the Christian Nations has been marked so extensively by peace and prosperity.

Europe, with a few partial and unhappy exceptions, has enjoyed ten years of peace, during which all her Governments, whatever the theory of their constitutions may have been, are successively taught to feel that the end of their institution is the happiness of the people, and that the exercise of power among men can be justified only by the blessings it confers upon those over whom it is extended.

During the same period, our intercourse with all those nations has been pacific and friendly—it so continues. Since the close of your last session no material variation has occurred in our relations with any one of them. In the commercial and navigation system of Great Britain, important changes of municipal regulation have recently been sanctioned by acts of Parliament, the effect of which upon the interests of other nations, and particularly upon ours, has not yet been fully developed. In the recent renewal of the diplomatic missions on both sides, between the two governments, assurances have been given and received of the continuance and increase of that mutual confidence and cordiality by which the adjustment of many points of difference had already been effected, & which affords the surest pledge for the ultimate satisfactory adjustment of those which still remain open, or may hereafter arise.

The policy of the United States, in their commercial intercourse with other nations, has always been of the most liberal character. In the mutual exchange of their respective productions, they have abstained altogether from prohibitions; they have interdicted themselves the power of laying taxes upon exports, and, whenever they have favored their own shipping, by special preferences, or exclusive privileges in their own ports, it has been only with a view to counteract similar favors and exclusions granted by the nations with whom we have been engaged in trade, to their own people or shipping, and to the disadvantage of ours. Immediately after the close of the last war, a proposal was fairly made by the act of Congress of the 3d of March, 1813, to all the maritime nations, to lay aside the system of retaliating restrictions and exclusions, and to place the shipping of both parties to the common trade on a footing of equality, in respect to the duties of tonnage and impost. This offer was partially and successively accepted by Great Britain, Sweden, the Netherlands, the Hanseatic Cities, Prussia, Sardinia, the Duke of Oldenburg, and Russia. It was also adopted, under certain modifications, in our late commercial convention with France, 1824. It has received a new sanction, with all the nations who had acceded to it, and has been offered again to all those who are, or may hereafter be willing to abide in reciprocity by it. But all these regulations, whether established by treaty or by municipal enactments, are still subject to one important restriction. The removal of discriminating duties of tonnage and impost, is limited to articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the country to which the vessel belongs, or to such articles as are most usually first shipped from her ports. It will deserve the serious consideration of Congress, whether even this remnant of restriction may not be safely abandoned, and whether the general tender of equal competition, made in the act of 8th January, 1824, may not be extended to include all articles of merchandise not prohibited, or of what country never they may be the produce or manufacture. Proposals to this effect have already been made to us by more than one European government, and it is probable that, if once established by legislation or compact with any distinguished maritime state, it would recommend itself by the experience of its advantages, to the general accession of all.

The Convention in Commerce and Navigation between the United States and France, concluded on the 24th of June, 1824, was, in the understanding and intent of both parties, as appears upon its face, only a temporary arrangement of the points of difference between them, of the most immediate and pressing urgency. It was limited, in the first instance, to two years, from the 1st of October, 1825, but with a proviso, that it should further continue in force till the conclusion of a general and definitive treaty of commerce, which terminated by a notice six months in advance, of either of the parties to the other. Its operation, so far as it extended, has been mutually advantageous; and it still continues in force by common consent. But it left unadjusted several objects of great interest to the citizens and subjects of both countries, and particularly a mass of claims, to considerable amount, of citizens of the United States upon the government of France, of indemnity for property taken or destroyed under circumstances of the most aggravated and outrageous character. In the long period during which continual and earnest appeals have been made to the equity and magnanimity of France, in behalf of these claims, their justice has not been, as it could not be, denied. It was hoped that the accession of a new sovereign to the throne would have afforded a favorable opportunity for presenting them to the consideration of his Government. They have been presented and urged, hitherto, without effect. The repeated and earnest representations of our Minister at the Court of France, remain, as yet, even without an answer. Were the demands of nations upon the justice of each other susceptible of adjudication by the sentence of an impartial tribunal, those to which I now refer would long since have been settled, and adequate indemnity would have been given. There are large amounts of similar claims upon the Netherlands, Naples, and Denmark. For those upon Spain, prior to 1813, indemnity was, after many years of patient fortitude, obtained, and those upon Sweden have been lately compromised by a private settlement, in which the claimants themselves have acquiesced. The Governments of Denmark and Naples have been recently reminded of those yet existing against them; nor will any of them be forgotten, while a hope may be indulged of obtaining justice, by the means within the constitutional power of the Executive, and without resorting to those measures of self-redress, which, as well as the time, circumstances, and reason, which may require them, are within the exclusive competency of the Legislature.

It is with great satisfaction that I am enabled to bear witness to the liberal spirit with which the Republic of Colombia has made satisfaction for well established claims of a similar character. And among the documents, now communicated to Congress, will be distinguished a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation with that Republic, the ratifications of which have been exchanged since the last recess of the Legislature. The negotiation of similar treaties with all the independent South American States, has been contemplated, and may yet be accomplished. The basis of them all, as proposed by the United States, has been laid in two principles; the one, of entire and unqualified reciprocity; the other, the mutual obligation of the parties to place each other permanently upon the footing of the most favored nation. These principles are, indeed, indispensable to the effectual emancipation of the American hemisphere from the thralldom of colonial monopolies and exclusions—an event rapidly realizing in the progress of human affairs, and which the resistance still opposed in certain parts of Europe to the acknowledgment of the Southern American Republics as independent States, will, it is believed, contribute more effectually to accomplish. The time has been, and that not remote, when some of those States might, in their anxious desire to obtain a nominal recognition, have accepted of a nominal independence, clogged with burdensome conditions, and exclusive commercial privileges, granted to the nation from which they have separated, to the disadvantage of all others. They are now all aware that such concessions to any European nation, would be incompatible with that independence which they have declared & maintained. Among the measures which have been suggested to them by the new relations with one another, resulting from the recent changes of their condition, is that of assembling, at the Isthmus of Panama, a Congress at which each of them should be represented, to deliberate upon objects important to the welfare of all. The Republics of Colombia, of Mexico, and of Central America, have already deputed Plenipotentiaries to such a meeting, and they have invited the United States to be also represented there by their ministers. The invitation has been accepted, and ministers on the part of the United States will be commissioned to attend at those deliberations, and to take part in them, so far as may be compatible with that neutrality from which it is neither our intention, nor the desire of the other American States, that we should depart.

The Commissioners under the Seventh Article of the Treaty of Ghent have so nearly completed their labors, that by the Report recently received from the Agent on the part of the United States, there is reason to expect that the Commission will be closed at their next session, appointed for the 22d of May of the ensuing year.

The other Commission, appointed to ascertain the indemnities due for slaves carried away from the United States, after the close of the late war, have met with some difficulty, which has delayed their progress in the inquiry. A reference has been made to the British Government on the subject, which, it may be hoped, will tend to hasten the decision of the Commissioners, or serve as a substitute for it.

Among the powers specifically granted to Congress by the Constitution, are those of establishing uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States, and of providing for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States. The magnitude and complexity of the interests affected by legislation upon these subjects, may account for the fact, that, long and often as both of them have occupied the attention, and animated the debates of Congress, no systems have yet been devised for fulfilling, to the satisfaction of the community, the duties prescribed by these grants of power. To conciliate the claim of the individual citizen to the enjoyment of personal liberty, with the effective obligation of private contracts, is the difficult problem to be solved by a law of bankruptcy. These are objects of the deepest interest to society; affecting all that is precious in the existence of multitudes; of persons, many of them in the classes essentially dependent and helpless, of the age requiring nurture, and of the sex entitled to protection, from the free agency of the parent and the husband. The organization of the militia is yet more indispensable to the liberties of the country. It is only by an effective militia that we can at once enjoy the repose of peace, and bid defiance to foreign aggression; it is by the militia that we are constituted an armed nation, standing in perpetual jeopardy of defence, in the presence of all the other nations of the earth. To this end, it would be necessary so to shape its organization as to give it a more united and active energy. There are laws for establishing a uniform militia throughout the United States, and for arming and equipping its whole body. But it is a body of dislocated members, without the vigor of unity, and having little of uniformity but the name. To infuse into this most important institution the power of which it is susceptible, and to make it available for the defence of the Union, at the shortest notice, and at the smallest expense of time, of life, and of treasure, are among the benefits to be expected from the persevering deliberations of Congress.

Among the unequivocal indications of our national prosperity, is the flourishing state of our finances. The revenues of the present year, from all their principal sources, will exceed the anticipations of the last. The balance in the Treasury, on the first of January last, was a little short of two millions of dollars, exclusive of two millions and a half, being the moiety of the loan of five millions, authorized by the act of the 26th May, 1824. The receipts into the Treasury, from the first of January to the thirtieth of September, exclusive of the other moiety of the same loan, are estimated at sixteen millions five hundred thousand dollars; and it is expected that those of the current quarter will exceed five millions of dollars, forming an aggregate of receipts of nearly twenty-two millions, independent of the loan. The expenditures of the year will not exceed that sum more than two millions. By these expenditures, nearly eight millions of the principal of the public debt have been discharged. More than a million and a half has been devoted to the debt of gratitude to the warriors of the Revolution; a nearly equal sum to the construction of the fortifications, and the acquisition of ordnance; and other permanent preparations of national defence; half a million to the gradual increase of the navy; an equal sum for purchases of Territory from the Indians, and payment of annuities to them; and upwards of a million for objects of Internal Improvement, authorized by special acts of the last Congress. If we add to these, four millions of dollars for payment of interest upon the public debt, there remains a sum of about seven millions, which have defrayed the whole expense of the Administration of Government, in its Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary Departments, including the support of the Military and Naval Establishments, and all the occasional contingencies of a Government co-extensive with the Union.

The amount of duties secured on merchandise imported from the commencement of the year, is about twenty-five millions and a half; and that which will accrue during the current quarter, is estimated at five millions and a half from these thirty-one millions, deducting the drawbacks, estimated at less than seven millions, a sum exceeding twenty-four millions will constitute the revenue of the year; and will exceed the whole expenditures of the year. The entire amount of public debt remaining due on the 1st of January next, will be short of eighty-one millions of dollars.

By an act of Congress of the third of March last, a loan of twelve millions of dollars was authorized at four and a half per cent, or an exchange of stock to that amount of four and a half per cent, for a stock of six per cent, to create a fund for extinguishing an equal amount of the public debt, bearing an interest of six per cent, redeemable in 1826. An account of the measures taken to give effect to this act, will be laid before you by the Secretary of the Treasury. As the object which it had in view has been but partially accomplished, it will be for the consideration of Congress, whether the power with which it clothed the Executive should not be renewed at an early day of the present session, and under what modifications.

The act of Congress of the 3d of March last, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to subscribe, in the name and for the use of the United States, for one thousand five hundred shares of the capital stock of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company, has been executed by the actual subscription for the amount specified; and such other measures have been adopted by that officer, under the act, as the fulfillment of its intentions requires. The latest accounts received of this important undertaking, authorize the belief that it is in successful progress.

The payments into the Treasury from proceeds of the sales of Public Lands, during the present year, were estimated at one million of dollars. The actual receipts of the first two quarters have fallen very little short of that sum; it is not expected that the second half of the year will be equally productive; but the income of the year from that source may now be safely estimated at a million and a half. The Act of Congress of 18th May, 1821, to provide for the extinguishment of the debt due to the United States by the purchasers of public lands, was limited, in its operation of relief to the purchaser, to the tenth of April last. Its effect at the end of the quarter during which it expired, was to reduce that debt from ten to seven millions. By the operation of similar prior laws of relief, from and since that of second of March, 1821, the debt had been reduced, from upwards of twenty-two millions, to ten. It is exceedingly desirable that it should be extinguished altogether; and to facilitate that consummation, I recommend to Congress the revival, for one year more, of the Act of 18th May, 1821, with such provisional modification as may be necessary to guard the public interest against fraudulent practices in the re-sale of the relinquished land. The purchasers of public lands are among the most useful of our fellow citizens; and, since the system of sales for cash alone has been introduced, great indulgence has been justly extended to those who had previously purchased upon credit. The debt which had been contracted under the credit sales had become unwieldy, and its extinction was alike advantageous to the purchaser and the public. Under the system of sales, matured, as it has been, by experience, and adapted to the exigencies of the times, the lands will continue, as they have become, an abundant source of revenue; and when the pledge of them to the public creditor shall have been redeemed by the entire discharge of the national debt, the swelling tide of wealth with which they replenish the common Treasury may be made to re-flow in unfeeling streams of improvement from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

The condition of the various branches of the public service, resorting from the Department of War, and their administration during the current year, will be exhibited in the Report from the Secretary of War, and the accompanying documents herewith communicated. The organization and discipline of the Army are effective and satisfactory. To counteract the prevalence of desertion among the troops, it has been suggested to withhold from the men a small portion of their monthly pay, until the period of their discharge; and some expedient appears to be necessary, to preserve & maintain among the officers so much of the ardor of horsemanship as could scarcely fail to be found wanting, on the possible sudden eruption of a war which should overtake us unprovided with a single corps of cavalry. The Military Academy at West-Point, under the restrictions of a severe but paternal superintendence, recommends itself more and more to the patronage of the Nation; and the number of meritorious officers which it forms and introduces to the public service, furnishes the means of multiplying the undertakings of public improvements, to which their acquisitions at that institution are peculiarly adapted. The school of Artillery practice, established at Fort Mifflin, is well suited to the same purpose, and may need the aid of further legislative provision to the same end. The Reports from the various officers at the head of the administrative branches of the military service, connected with the quartering, clothing, subsistence, health, and pay, of the Army, exhibit the assiduous vigilance of those officers in the performance of their respective duties, & the faithful accountability which has pervaded every part of the system.

Our relations with the numerous tribes of aboriginal natives of this country, scattered over its extensive surface, and so dependent, even for their existence, upon our power, have been during the present year, highly interesting. An act of Congress of 24th May, 1824, made an appropriation to defray the expenses of making treaties of trade and friendship with the Indian tribes beyond the Mississippi. An act of 31 March, 1825, authorized treaties to be made with the Indians for the making of a road from the frontier of Missouri to that of New Mexico. And another act, of the same date, provided for defraying the expenses of holding treaties with the Sioux, Chippewas, Menomonees, Sauks, Foxes, &c. for the purpose of establishing boundaries and promoting peace between said tribes. The first and last objects of these acts have been accomplished, and the second is yet in a process of execution. The treaties which, since the last session of Congress, have been concluded with the several tribes, will be laid before the Senate for their consideration, conformably to the Constitution. They comprise large and valuable acquisitions of territory; and they secure an adjustment of boundaries; and give pledges of permanent peace between several tribes which had been long waging bloody wars against each other.

On the 12th of February last, a treaty was signed at the Indian Springs, between Commissioners appointed on the part of the United States, and certain Chiefs and individuals of the Creek Nation of Indians, which was received at the Seat of Government only a few days before the close of the last Session of Congress and of the late Administration. The advice and consent of the Senate was given to it on the 3d of March, President of the United States; it was ratified on the 7th of March, under the unsuspecting impression that it had been negotiated in good faith, and in the confidence inspired by the recommendation of the Senate. The subsequent transactions in relation to this Treaty, will form the subject of a separate Message.

The appropriations made by Congress, for public works, as well in the construction of fortifications, as for purposes of Internal Improvement, so far as they have been expended, have been faithfully applied. Their progress has been delayed by the want of suitable officers for superintending them. An increase of both the Corps of Engineers, Military and Topographical, was recommended by my predecessor, at the last Session of Congress. The reasons upon which that recommendation was founded, subsist in all their force, and have acquired additional urgency since that time. It may also be expedient to organize the Topographical Engineers into a Corps similar to the present establishment of the Corps of Engineers. The Military Academy at West-Point will furnish, from the Cadets annually graduated there, officers well qualified for carrying this measure into effect.

The Board of Engineers for Internal Improvement, appointed for carrying into execution the Act of Congress of 30th of April, 1824, to procure the necessary surveys, plans, and estimates, on the subject of that service from the close of the last Session of Congress. They have completed the surveys necessary for ascertaining the practicability of a Canal from the Chesapeake Bay to the Ohio River, and are preparing a full Report on that subject; which, when completed, will be laid before you. The same objects of national importance upon which the Board have been occupied; namely, the accomplishment of a National Road from this City to New-Orleans, and the practicability of uniting the waters of Lake Michigan with the waters of the Ohio River, and the improvement of the Navigation of that River. The surveys have been made, and are nearly completed. The Report may be expected at an early period during the present Session of Congress.

The Acts of Congress of the last Session, relative to the surveying, marking, or laying out, roads in the Territories of Florida, Arkansas, and Michigan, from Missouri to Mexico, and for the continuation of the Cumberland Road, are, some of them, fully executed, and others in the process of execution. These for completing or commencing fortifications have been delayed only so far as the Corps of Engineers has been inadequate to furnish officers for the necessary superintendence of the works. Under the act confirming the statutes of Virginia and Maryland, incorporating the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, three Commissioners on the part of the United States have been appointed for opening books and receiving subscriptions, in concert with a like number of Commissioners appointed on the part of each of those States. A meeting of the Commissioners has been postponed, to await the definitive Report of the Board of Engineers. The light-houses and monuments for the safety of our commerce and mariners; the works for the security of Plymouth Beach, and for the preservation of the Islands in Boston Harbor; have received the attention required by the laws relating to those objects respectively. The continuation of the Cumberland Road, the most important of them all, after surmounting no inconsiderable difficulty in fixing upon the direction of the road, has commenced under the most promising auspices, with the improvements of recent invention in the mode of construction, and with the advantage of a great reduction in the comparative cost of the work.

The operation of the laws relating to the Revolutionary Pensioners may deserve the renewed consideration of Congress. The act of 18th March, 1818, while it made provision for many meritorious and indigent citizens, who had served in the War of Independence, opened a door to numerous abuses and impositions. To remedy this, the act of 1st May, 1820, exacted proofs of absolute indigence, which many really in want were unable, and all, susceptible of that delicacy which is allied to many virtues, must be deeply reluctant to give. The result has been, that some among the least deserving have been retained, and some in whom the requisites both of worth and want were combined, have been stricken from the list. As the numbers of these venerable relics of an age gone by diminish, as the decays of body, mind, and estate, of those that survive, must, in the common course of nature, increase; should not a more liberal portion of indulgence be dealt out to them? May not the want, in most instances, be inferred from the demand, when the service can be duly proved; and may not the last days of human infirmity be spared the mortification of purchasing a pittance of relief only by the exposure of its own necessities? I submit to Congress the expediency either of providing for individual cases of this description by special enactment, or of revising the Act of 1st May, 1820, with a view to mitigate the rigour of its exclusions, in favor of persons to whom charity now bestowed can scarcely discharge the debt of justice.

The portion of the Naval force of the Union in actual service, has been chiefly employed on three stations: the Mediterranean, the coasts of South America bordering on the Pacific Ocean, and the West Indies. An occasional cruiser has been sent to range along the African shores most polluted by the traffic of slaves; one armed vessel has been stationed on the coast of our eastern boundary, to cruise along the fishing grounds in Hudson's Bay, and on the coast of Labrador; & the first service of a new frigate has been performed in restoring to his native soil, and domestic enjoyments, the veteran hero whose youthful blood and treasure had freely flowed in the cause of our Country's Independence, and whose whole life had been a series of services and sacrifices to the improvement of his fellow-men. The visit of General Lafayette, alike honorable to himself and to our Country, closed, as it had commenced, with the most affecting testimonials of devoted attachment on his part, and of unbounded gratitude of this people to him in return. It will form, hereafter, a pleasing incident in the annals of our Union, giving to real history the intense interest of romance, and signally marking the unpurchasable tribute of a great Nation's social affections to the disinterested champion of the liberties of human kind.

The constant maintenance of a small squadron in the Mediterranean, is a necessary substitute for the humiliating alternative of paying tribute for the security of our commerce in that sea, and for a precarious peace, at the mercy of every caprice of four Barbary States, by whom it was liable to be violated. An additional motive for keeping a respectable force stationed there at this time, is found in the maritime war raging between the Greeks and the Turks; and in which the neutral navigation of this Union is always in danger of outrage and depredation. A few instances have occurred of such depredations upon our merchant vessels by privateers or pirates wearing the Greek or any other Government. The heroic struggle of the Greeks themselves, in which our warmest sympathies as Freemen and Christians have been engaged, have continued to be maintained with vicissitudes of success and adversity, and favorable.

Similar motives have rendered expedient the keeping of a like force on the coasts of Peru and Chili on the Pacific. The irregular and convulsive character of the war upon the coast

has been extended to the conflicts upon the ocean. An active warfare has been kept up for years, with alternate success, though generally to the advantage of the American Patriots. But their naval forces have not always been under the control of their own Governments. Blockades, unjustifiable upon any acknowledged principles of international law, have been proclaimed by officers in command; and though disavowed by the supreme authorities, the protection of our own commerce against them has been made cause of complaint and of erroneous imputations upon some of the most gallant officers of our Navy. Complaints equally groundless have been made by the commanders of the Spanish Royal forces in those seas; but the most effective protection to our commerce has been the flag, and the firmness of our own commanding officers. The cessation of the war, by the complete triumph of the Patriot cause, has removed, it is hoped, all cause of dissension with one party, and all vestige of force of the other. But an unsettled coast of many degrees of latitude, forming a part of our own Territory, and a flourishing commerce and fishery, extending to the Islands of the Pacific and China, still require that the protecting power of the Union should be displayed under its flag as well upon the ocean as upon the land.

The objects of the West India squadron have been to carry into execution the laws for the suppression of the African Slave Trade: for the protection of our commerce against vessels of piratical character, though bearing commissions from either of the belligerent parties: for its protection against open and unequivocal pirates. These objects, during the present year, have been accomplished more effectually than at any former period. The African Slave Trade has long been excluded from the use of our flag; and if some few citizens of our country have continued to set the laws of the Union, as well as those of Nature and Humanity, at defiance, by persevering in that abominable traffic, it has been only by sheltering themselves under the banners of other nations, less earnest for the total extinction of the trade than ours. The irregular privateers have, within the last year, been in a great measure banished from those seas; and the pirates, for months past, appear to have been almost entirely swept away from the borders and the shores of the two Spanish Islands in those regions. The active, persevering, and unremitting energy of Capt. Warrington, and of the officers and men under his command, on that trying and perilous service, have been crowned with signal success, and are entitled to the approbation of their country. But experience has shown, that not even a temporary suspension or relaxation from assiduity can be indulged in that station, without re-producing piracy and murder in all their horrors; nor is it probable that, for years to come, our immensely valuable commerce in those seas can navigate in security, without the steady continuance of an armed force devoted to its protection.

It were indeed a vain and dangerous illusion to believe, that, in the present or probable condition of human society, a commerce so extensive and so rich as ours could exist and be pursued in safety, without the continual support of a military marine—the only arm by which the power of this Confederacy can be estimated or felt by foreign nations, and the only standing military force which can never be dangerous to our own liberties at home. A permanent Naval Peace Establishment, therefore, adapted to our present condition, and adaptable to that gigantic growth with which the nation is advancing in its career, is among the subjects which have already occupied the foresight of the last Congress, and which will deserve your serious deliberations. Our Navy, commenced at an early period of our present political organization, upon a scale commensurate with the incipient energies, the scanty resources, and the comparative indigence of our infancy, was even then found adequate to cope with all the powers of Barbary, save the first, and with one of the principal maritime powers of Europe. At a period of further advancement, but with little accession of strength, it not only sustained with honor the most unequal conflicts, but covered itself and our country with unending glory. But it is only since the close of the late war, that, by the number and force of the ships of which it was composed, it could deserve the name of a Navy. Yet it retains nearly the same organization as when it consisted only of five frigates. The rules and regulations by which it is governed urgently call for revision, and the want of a Naval School of Instruction, corresponding with the Military Academy at West-Point, for the formation of scientific and accomplished officers, is felt with daily increasing aggravation.

The Act of Congress of 20th May, 1824, authorizing an examination and survey of the harbor of Charleston, in South Carolina, of St. Mary's, in Georgia, and of the Coast of Florida, and for other purposes, has been executed so far as the appropriation would admit. Those of the 3d of March last, authorizing the establishment of a Navy Yard and Depot on the Coast of Florida, in the Gulf of Mexico, and authorizing the building of ten sloops of war, and for other purposes, are in the course of execution: for the particulars of which, and other objects connected with this Department, I refer to the Report of the Secretary of the Navy, herewith communicated.

A Report from the Postmaster General is also submitted, exhibiting the present flourishing condition of that Department. For the first time for many years, the receipts for the year ending on the 1st of July last, exceeded the expenditures during the same period, to the amount of more than forty-five thousand dollars. Other facts, equally creditable to the administration of the Department, fare, that, in two years from the 1st of July, 1823, an im-

provement of more than one hundred and eighty-five thousand dollars in its pecuniary affairs has been realized; that in the same interval the increase of the transportation of the mail has exceeded one million five hundred thousand miles, annually; and that one thousand and forty new post-offices have been established. It hence appears, that, under judicious management, the income from this establishment may be relied on as fully adequate to defray its expenses; and that, by the discontinuance of post-roads, altogether unproductive, others of more useful character may be opened till the circulation of the mail shall keep pace with the spread of our population; and the comforts of friendly correspondence, the exchanges of internal traffic, and the lights of the periodical press, shall be distributed to the remotest corners of the Union, at a charge scarcely perceptible to any individual, and without the cost of a dollar to the public treasury.

Upon this first occasion of addressing the Legislature of the Union, with which I have been honored, in presenting to their view the execution, so far as it has been effected, of the measures sanctioned by them, for promoting the internal improvement of our country, I cannot close the communication without recommending to their calm and persevering consideration the general principle in a more enlarged extent. The great object of the institution of civil government, is the improvement of the condition of those who are parties to the social compact. And no government, in whatever form constituted, can accomplish the lawful ends of its institution, but in proportion as it improves the condition of those over whom it is established. Roads and Canals, by multiplying and facilitating the communications and intercourse between distant regions, and multitudes of men, are among the most important means of improvement. But moral, political, intellectual improvement, are duties assigned, by the Author of our existence, to social, no less than to individual man. For the fulfilment of those duties, governments are invested with power; and, to the attainment of the end, the progressive improvement of the condition of the government, the exercise of delegated power, is a duty as sacred and indispensable, as the usurpation of power not granted is criminal and odious. Among the first, perhaps the very first instrument for the improvement of the condition of men, is knowledge; and to the acquisition of much of the knowledge adapted to the wants, the comforts, and enjoyments of human life, public institutions and seminaries of learning are essential. So convinced of this was the first of my predecessors in this office, now first in the memory, as, living, he was first in the hearts of our country, that, once and again, in his addresses to the Congresses with whom he co-operated in the public service, he earnestly recommended the establishment of seminaries of learning, to prepare for all the emergencies of peace and war—a national university and a military academy. With respect to the latter, he lived to the present day, in turning his eyes to the institution at West-Point, he would have enjoyed the gratification of his most earnest wishes. But, in surveying the city which has been honored with his name, he would have seen the spot of earth which he had destined and bequeathed to the use and benefit of his country, as the site for an university, still bare and barren.

In assuming her station among the civilized nations of the earth, it would seem that our country had contracted the engagement to contribute her share of mind, of labor, and of expense, to the improvement of those parts of knowledge which lie beyond the reach of individual acquisition; and particularly, to geographical and astronomical science. Looking back to the history only of the half century since the Declaration of our Independence, and observing the generous emulation with which the governments of France, Great Britain, and Russia, have devoted the genius, the intelligence, the treasures of their respective nations, to the common improvement of the species in these branches of science, is it not incumbent upon us to inquire, whether we are not bound, by obligations of a high and honorable character, to contribute our portion of energy and exertion to the common stock? The voyages of discovery, prosecuted in the course of that time, at the expense of those nations, have not only redounded to their glory, but to the improvement of human knowledge. We have been partakers of that improvement, and owe for it a sacred debt, not only of gratitude, but of equal or proportional exertion in the same common cause. Of the cost of these undertakings, if the mere expenditures of outfit, equipment, and completion of the expeditions, were to be considered the only charges, it would be unworthy of a great and generous nation to take a second thought. One hundred expeditions of circumnavigation, like those of Cook and La Perouse, would not burden the exchequer of the nation fitting them out, so much as the ways and means of defraying a single campaign in war. But, if we take into the account the lives of those benefactors of mankind, of which their services in the cause of their species were the purchase, how shall the cost of those heroic enterprises be estimated? And what compensation can be made to them, or to their countries, for them? Is it not by bearing them in affectionate remembrance? Is it not still more by imitating their example? by enabling countrymen of our own to pursue the same career, and to hazard their lives in the same cause?

In inviting the attention of Congress to the subject of Internal Improvements, upon a view thus enlarged, it is not my design to recommend the equipment of an expedition for circumnavigating the globe for purposes of scientific research and inquiry. We have objects of useful investigation nearer home, and to which our

cares may be more beneficially applied. The interior of our own territories has yet been very imperfectly explored. Our coasts, along many degrees of latitude upon the shores of the Pacific ocean, though much frequented by our spirited commercial navigators, have been barely visited by our public ships. The River of the West, first fully discovered and navigated by a countryman of our own, still bears the name of the ship in which he ascended its waters, and claims the protection of our armed national flag at its mouth. With the establishment of a military post there, or at some other point of that coast, recommended by my predecessor, and already matured, in the deliberations of the last Congress, I would suggest the expediency of connecting the equipment of a public ship for the exploration of the whole northwest coast of this continent.

The establishment of a uniform standard of Weights and Measures, was one of the specific objects contemplated in the formation of our Constitution; and to fix that standard, was one of the powers delegated by express terms, in that instrument, to Congress. The governments of Great Britain and France have scarcely ceased to be occupied with inquiries and speculations on the same subject, since the existence of our constitution, and with them it has expanded into profound, laborious, and expensive researches into the figure of the earth, and the comparative length of the pendulum vibrating seconds in various latitudes, from the Equator to the Pole. These researches have resulted in the composition and publication of several works highly interesting to the cause of science. The experiments are yet in the process of performance. Some of them have recently been made on our own shores, within the walls of one of our own colleges, and partly by one of our own fellow citizens. It would be honorable to our country if the sequel of the same experiments should be countenanced by the patronage of our government, as they have hitherto been by those of France and Britain.

Connected with the establishment of an University, or separate from it, might be undertaken the erection of an astronomical observatory, with provision for the support of an astronomer, to be in constant attendance of observation upon the phenomena of the heavens; and for the periodical publication of his observations. It is with no feeling of pride; as an American, that the remark may be made, that, on the comparatively small territorial surface of Europe, there are existing upwards of one hundred and thirty of these light-houses of the skies; while, throughout the whole American hemisphere, there is not one. If we reflect a moment upon the discoveries, which, in the last four centuries, have been made in the physical constitution of the universe, by the means of these buildings, and of observers stationed in them, shall we doubt of their usefulness to every nation? And while scarcely a year passes over our heads without bringing some new astronomical discovery to light, which we must vainly receive at second hand from Europe, are we not cutting ourselves off from the means of returning light for light, while we have neither observatory nor observer upon our half of the globe, and the earth revolves in perpetual darkness to our unsearching eyes?

When, on the 25th October, 1791, the first President of the United States announced to Congress the result of the first enumeration of the inhabitants of this Union, he informed them that the returns gave the pleasing assurance that the population of the United States bordered on four millions of persons. At the distance of thirty years from that time, the last enumeration, five years since completed, presented a population bordering upon ten millions. Perhaps, of all the evidences of a prosperous and happy condition of human society, the rapidity of the increase of population is the most unequivocal. But the demonstration of our prosperity rests not alone upon this indication. Our commerce, our wealth, and the extent of territories, have increased in corresponding proportions; and the number of independent communities associated in our Federal Union, has, since that time, nearly doubled. The legislative representation of the States and people, in the two Houses of Congress, has grown with the growth of their constituent bodies. The House, which then consisted of sixty-five members, now numbers upwards of two hundred. The Senate, which consisted of twenty-six members, has now forty-eight. But the Executive, and still more the Judiciary Departments, are yet in a great measure confined to their primitive organization, and are now not adequate to the urgent wants of a still growing community.

The naval armaments, which, at an early period, forced themselves upon the necessities of the Union, soon led to the establishment of a Department of the Navy. But the Departments of Foreign Affairs, and of the Interior, which early after the formation of the Government, had been united in one, continue so united at this time, to the unquestionable detriment of the public service. The multiplication of our relations with the nations and Governments of the old world, has kept pace with that of our population and commerce, while, within the last ten years, a new family of nations, in our own hemisphere, has arisen among the inhabitants of the earth, with whom our intercourse, commercial and political, would, of itself, furnish occupation to an active and industrious Department. The constitution of the Judiciary, experimental and imperfect as it was, even in the infancy of our existing Government, is yet more inadequate to the administration of national justice at our present maturity. Nine years have elapsed since a predecessor in this office, now not the last, the citizen, who, perhaps, of all others throughout the Union, contributed most to the formation and establishment of our Constitution, in his valedictory address to Con-

gress, immediately preceding his retirement from public life, urgently recommended the revision of the Judiciary, and the establishment of an additional Executive department. The exigencies of the public service, and its unavoidable deficiencies, as now in exercise, have added yearly cumulative weight to the considerations presented by him as persuasive to the measure; and in recommending it to your deliberations, I am happy to have the influence of his high authority, in aid of the undoubting convictions of my own experience.

The laws relating to the administration of the Patent Office are deserving of much consideration, and, perhaps, susceptible of some improvement. The grant of power to regulate the action of Congress on this subject, has specified both the end to be attained, and the means by which it is to be effected—to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing, for limited times, to authors and inventors, the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries. If an honest pride might be indulged in the reflection that, on the records of that office, are already found inventions, the usefulness of which has scarcely been transcended in the annals of human ingenuity, would not its exultation be allayed by the inquiry, whether the laws have effectively insured to the inventors the reward destined to them by the Constitution, even a limited term of exclusive right to their discoveries?

On the 24th of December, 1799, it was resolved by Congress that a marble monument should be erected by the United States in the Capitol, at the city of Washington; that the family of General Washington should be requested to permit his body to be deposited under it; and that the monument be so designed as to commemorate the great events of his military and political life. In reminding Congress of this resolution, and that the monument contemplated by it remains yet without execution, I shall indulge only the remarks, that the works in the Capitol are approaching to completion; that the consent of the family, desired to be the resolution, was requested and obtained; that a monument has been recently erected in this city, at the expense of the nation, over the remains of another distinguished patriot of the Revolution; and that a spot has been reserved within the walls where you are deliberating for the benefit of this and future ages, in which the mortal remains may be deposited of him whose spirit hovers over you, and listens, with delight, to every act of the Representatives of his Nation which can tend to exalt and adorn his and their country.

The Constitution under which you are assembled is a charter of limited powers; after full and solemn deliberation upon all or any of the objects, which, urged by an irresistible sense of my own duty, I have recommended to your attention, should you come to the conclusion, that, however desirable in themselves, the enactment of laws for effecting them, would transcend the powers committed to you by that venerable instrument which we are all bound to support; let no consideration induce you to assume the exercise of powers not granted to you by the People. But, if the power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over the District of Columbia; if the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to pay the debts, and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; if the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes; to fix the standard of weights and measures; to establish post-offices and post-roads; to declare war; to raise and support armies; to provide and maintain a navy; to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying these powers into execution: If these powers, and others enumerated in the Constitution, may be effectually brought into action by laws promoting the improvement of Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures, the cultivation and encouragement of the Mechanic and of the elegant Arts, the advancement of Literature, and the progress of the Sciences, ornamental and profound,—to refrain from exercising them for the benefit of the People themselves, would be to hide in the earth the talent committed to our charge—would be treachery to the most sacred of trusts.

The spirit of improvement is abroad upon the earth. It stimulates the heart, and sharpens the faculties, not of our fellow-citizens alone, but of the nations of Europe, and of their rulers. While dwelling with pleasing satisfaction upon the superior excellence of our political institutions, let us not be unmindful that Liberty is Power; that the nation blessed with the largest portion of liberty, must, in proportion to its numbers, be the most powerful nation upon earth; and that the tenure of power by man, is, in the moral purposes of his Creator, upon condition that it shall be exercised to ends of beneficence, to improve the condition of himself and his fellow-men. While foreign nations, less blessed with that freedom which is power, than ourselves, are advancing with gigantic strides in the career of public improvement; were we to slumber in indolence, or fold up our arms and proclaim to the world that we are palsied by the will of our constituents, would it not be to cast away the bounties of Providence, and doom ourselves to perpetual inferiority? In the course of the year now drawing to its close, we have beheld, under the auspices, and at the expense of one State of this Union, a new University unfolding its portals to the sons of Science, and holding up the torch of human improvement to eyes that seek the light. We have seen, under the persevering and enlightened enterprise of another State, the waters of our Western Lakes mingled with those of the Ocean. If undertakings like these have been accomplished in the compass of a few years, by the authority of single members of our Confederation, can we, the Representative Authorities of the whole Union, fall behind our fellow servants in the exercise of the trust committed to us for the benefit of our common Sovereign, by the accomplishment of works important to the whole, and to which neither the authority nor the resources of any one State can be adequate?

Finally, fellow-citizens, I shall await with cheering hope, and faithful co-operation, the result of your deliberations; assured that, without encroaching upon the powers reserved to the authorities of the respective States, or the People, you will, with a due sense of your obligations to your country, and of the high responsibilities weighing upon yourselves, give efficacy to the means committed to you for the common good. And may He who searches the hearts of the children of men, prosper your exertions to secure the blessings of peace, and promote the highest welfare of our country.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,

Washington, December 8, 1825.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

FOR THE OBSERVER.
IN AUTUMN.

Say, hast thou walk'd in yonder mead?
And didst thou mark how fresh the view?
The scene must change, the prospect fade,
For summer bids the fields—*adieu*.

In memory dost thou still retain
Infantile sports—when cares were few?
When first you join'd the little train:
And these, how soon you bid—*adieu*.

Sure, this has not escap'd thy sight—
That all the trifles we pursue,
Like the false stars of transient light,
A moment please, then bid—*adieu*.

Beauty, a short-lived, idle flow'r,
Soon leaves the spot where first it grew—
Youth's summer joys scarce last an hour—
Ere ardent hopes are bid—*adieu*.

A tit'd name, not long can please—
From Gallie's Chief the phantom flew!
Splendor oft mocks an idiot's gaze—
And gold, the miser bids—*adieu*.

Friendship's a social, "sacred tie,"
I blush, my friend, to own to you,
If fortune fail, friends pass us by—
And e'en connections bid—*adieu*.

But are there some, whom well we prove
Sincere in friendship, ever true—
Stern death may call these friends we love,
To bid this "vale of tears"—*adieu*.

Our joys, though short, we'll not despise,
Or scan them with a stoic view;
What we possess we'll duly prize,
Nor murmur when we bid—*adieu*.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

TO THE EVENING STAR.

'Tis sweet, bright Star! when clouds do sail
Swift o'er the pure blue sky,
And as they pass thy beauty veil
From mortal's gazing eye.

'Tis sweet, to watch thy smiling face,
Now wrapt in misty shroud—
Now shining bright through opening space,
And tingling faint the cloud.

Emblem of hope! that shineth clear,
When storms around us play;
Without which, our short sojourn here,
Would be a weary day.

Shine on, bright Star! nor hide thy face,
When time's last peal shall sound—
And may our future dwelling place
Near thy pure light be found.

K.

VARIETY.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

MR. BARTON—If you think the following has any merit, you will please one, at least, by inserting it in your paper:

*Our Ladies keep time,
And our Deans keep time.*

Ladies and Gentlemen, I perceive that a fiddler has been "tuning up" in preparation for a dance. As this is just the opening of the winter campaign, and as it is probable that the said fiddler will find many disposed to regulate their movements by the motion of his elbow, it may not be wholly useless to enumerate some of the old Continental rules for the purpose of remembrance, as well as for the government of the dance.

RULE I. When invited to a party, go at as late an hour as you possibly can, so that you may not be present at the uninteresting ceremony of gallanting the chairs, tables, &c. out of the room; and that you may also have the appearance of a man or woman of business.

RULE II. Take your departure at such time that darkness may not interrupt your progress, homeward; at least, get home before breakfast, next morning.

RULE III. If you have the honor of calling, and leading down a dance, insist on the "Chorus Jig, Hull's Victory, or Fisher's Hornpipe"—and this, early in the evening, that the spirit and strength of the company may not be exhausted when they perform either of these everlasting labor-making dances.

RULE IV. Gentlemen blessed with an immeasurably ungovernable longitude of legs, should take special care to keep them under proper restriction, to prevent them from wandering too largely—too widely—too familiarly—into mixed companies, to the sad discomfiture of the Ladies' drapery, and the touching annoyance of sundry shifts, corsets, and unfortunate toes.

RULE V. When one has an occasion to take a lady by the hand to swing, or any such matter, he should grasp as if he were grasping a substance of as little feeling as a deer's hoof, for a strong hold is a good one; and if he hold on she will prevent his falling in company.

RULE VI. Call a figure when it waxeth late, that has just been danced, for all the changes are fresh in one's recollection, and mistakes are less likely to occur.

If these rules be implicitly obeyed, the fiddler will have less frequent opportunity of sounding in our ears Hamlet's advice to the dancers:—

"Step the time, I pray you, as I instructed a to you—tripping by on the toe. But if you mind it up, as many of our dancers do, I had as lief a country cow had kept my time. And do not saw the air too much with your arms and legs, but use all gently; for in the very torrent, tempest, and, as I may say, whirligig of your dance, you must acquire and beget a moderation that will give it smoothness. Oh! it offends me to the very soul, to see a robustious, perrivig-pated fellow tear a dance to tatters—to very rags, to delight the eyes, and split the ears of the wall-flowers, who, for the most part, are capable of nothing but inexplicable dumb shows and thundering noise—Pray you avoid it."

SHAKSPEARE.

From the New-York Daily Advertiser. REFUGEE LETTERS.

[The following is a letter from Judge Sewall, of Boston, to a Mr. Curran, which will further show the feelings of the men who left their country, and adhered to the British government, during the war of Independence.]

Bristol, 24th August, 1780.

Dear Sir—Since I wrote you by Mr. Danforth, Mr. R. Temple and his family have arrived here in 32 days from Boston, from whom I learn that the story of the dark day is literally true—but as they relate it, the phenomenon was truly wonderful, and far beyond my comprehension. They say, the morning was, not as you say, fine and clear, but rather lowery and drizzly, though far from dark; that at 9 o'clock an uncommon darkness came on, without any appearance of a thick cloud.—Mr. Temple says it seemed as if a veil was drawn over them, which he seemed to look through, and see the Heavens beyond it—the darkness increased till they were obliged to light candles, and this continued till 3 o'clock, P. M. when it lightened up a little; but before the sun set the darkness returned and the night resembled the darkness in Egypt which might be felt—it was so intense that many persons both in Boston and in the country, were bewildered in going from house to house, where they were intimately acquainted. They say that during the darkness in the day, the green grass appeared of a deep blue color; and the next morning, both the water and land were covered with a dark, greasy or oily substance—that the darkness extending southward so far as the North River, at New-York, and westward, as far as they had heard—I say as far as Lake Champlain, and that it was the devil spreading his wings over the northern rebellious Colonies, and if they don't repent the next time he will certainly fly off with them all. I give you this account to atone to thee for my infidelity in my last, and with all the allowance I can make for the subtle workings of imagination. I confess I am puzzled to account for the appearance.

The young ladies, his daughters, who were at Boston, say, candles were lighted all the day in the shops and houses—but in the evening they were at a Wedding Ball, with a brilliant company, which, if they don't exaggerate, would put one in mind of the inhabitants of the old world, who were eating and drinking, feasting and frolicking, till the flood came, &c. They add another circumstance which increaseth the wonder, which is, that during the darkness there was not the least appearance of fog, smoke, or haziness. I wish you would consult that learned body, the Royal Society, upon this *Lusus Naturæ*, and let me know the result of your consultation, for I don't believe all the wise men of Bristol will be able to explain it.

I have seen Boston newspapers to the 17th July, but they contain nothing new, excepting the arrival of the Chevalier De Ternay at R. Island, with 7 ships of the line and 6,000 troops—upon this occasion all their pens are again at work, to rekindle the dying patriotic fire—Washington, it seems, in expectation of De Ternay's arrival, had made a requisition upon all the States, of men, horses, provisions, &c. but by the complaints in the papers, the levies went on heavily, or rather, not at all.—The plan in the papers seems to be to muster their utmost force, and in conjunction with the French, to attack N. York, and drive the British forces from the continent—I wish they may have courage to attempt it. Gen. Kniphausen has burnt the little village of Springfield in the Jerseys. A paper of July 6th, says, Gen. Clinton was returned to N. York—but that of 17th, leaves him up North River, near forming a junction with Gen. Kniphausen.—The ladies at Philadelphia have opened a subscription for supplying the army with comforts and conveniences—they have appointed a treasurer to receive, and a committee to distribute, the donations; and all the ladies upon the continent are most earnestly and pathetically exhorted to follow this laudable, patriotic example. If the zeal and spirits of the peasants can again be raised, I think this may prove a decisive campaign. Admirals Graves and Arbuthnot, it is said are at N. York, so that if the Chevalier De Ternay did not get away with his ship's very soon, they very probably, before this time, are added to the British Navy; this would console us for the loss of our E. and W. Indians—that was a capital stroke, but, n'importe, Fortune de la guerre, a capering Frenchman would say. I must mention an advertisement I read in one of your papers which shows the value of their paper money: a man advertiseth sieve bottoms made and sold, and then goes on in these words, "40 Dollars per lb. is give for Horse hair, or three shillings in hard money, or which is better, he will work it up to the hilt."—Glorious times in America. Yours sincerely,
JONATHAN SEWELL.

Mr. Curran.

[He was a distinguished man in Massachusetts at the commencement of the Revolutionary struggle, and the father of the present Chief Justice of the Province of Lower-Canada.]

An Irishman with his family landing at Philadelphia, was assisted on shore by a negro who spoke to Patrick in Irish. The latter taking the black fellow for one of his own countrymen, asked how long he had been in America?—About four months, was the reply. The chop-fallen Irishman turned to his wife, and exclaimed, "But four months in this country, and almost as black as jet!"

THE PHYSICIAN.—An obscure Irish physician quarrelling with a neighbor, swore in a great rage, that some time or other he would be the death of him. "I hold your threats very cheap," doctor, (replied the other,) for you know I shall never read for you."

A HUSBAND TRAPPED.

A Tradesman who lived in a village near St. Albans, had been twice married, and ill-treated his wives so as to cause their death. He sought a third, but as his brutality was well known in the place where he dwelt, he was obliged to go fifty miles off for a wife.—He obtained one, and after he brought her home, all the neighbors came to visit her, and acquainted her in what manner her husband used to treat his former wives. This somewhat surprised her, but she resolved to wait patiently till her lord and master might take it into his head to beat her. She did not wait long, for her husband was a terrible fellow.—One morning he waited on his lady with a cudgel and was preparing himself to make use of it.—"Stop," said she, "I fancy that the right which you now pretend to have over me, is not mentioned in our marriage contract; and I declare to your worship you shall not exercise it."—Such a distinct speech disconcerted the husband so much, that he laid down his cudgel, and only began to scold her.—"Get out of my house," said he, "and let us share our goods."—"Readily," said she, "I am willing to leave you," and each began to set aside the moveables. The lady loosens the window curtains, and the gentleman unlocks an enormous trunk, in order to fill it with his property; but as he was leaning over to place some articles at the bottom, she tripped up his heels, pushed him in, and locked the lid. Never man was in a greater passion than our man; he threatened to kill her, and made more noise than a wild boar caught in a trap. She answered him very quietly: "My dear friend, pray be calm, your passion may injure your health; refresh yourself a little in this comfortable trunk; for I love you too much to let you out now, you are so outrageous." In the mean time she ordered her maid to make some custards and cream-tarts, and when these were baked and ready, she sent around to all the neighboring gossips to come and partake of her collation. This was served up, not on a table, but on the lid of the trunk. Heaven knows what pretty things the husband heard all these famous tattlers publish in his praise. In such a case, a wise man must submit and give fair words. So did our friend in the chest. His language was soothing, he begged pardon and cried for mercy. The ladies were so good as to forgive him, and let him out of the trunk. To reward him for his good behaviour, they gave him the remainder of the custards and tarts. He was thus completely cured of his brutality, and was afterwards cited as a model for good husbands; so that it was sufficient to say to those who were not so, take care of the trunk, to make them as gentle as lambs.

A letter from an Attorney on the Circuit to his Mistress in Town.

My Dear Charmer—The circuit is now at an end, and the judges and council on their return; but no felon sentenced at an assizes could have been in a more wretched plight than your humble servant, for I can safely make affidavit, that each day that I behold not your lovely face is to me a *dies non*. Cupid, the tipstaff, has served me with an attachment from your bright eyes, more dreadful than a green wax process; he has taken my heart into custody, and will not accept of bail. Unless you allow my plea, I must be non-suited in a cause I have set my heart on. Why will you, while I pine in hopes of a speedy rejoinder, hang me up, term after term, by frivolous delays, which tend only to gain time?

I filed my bills at Michaelmas term on the morrow of all Souls, in hopes ere this to have joined the issue with you. It is now Trinity vacation, and by your demurring I am as far from bringing my cause to a hearing as before I commenced my suit; you still delay giving in your answer, which is absolutely against the practice of all Courts. I wish you would submit to a reference, and should prefer an attendance at your chambers, to those of a Master in Chancery.

I stand in great need of an able council to move my suit, while I am absent. That sly slut, Dolly, your chambermaid, has taken your fee, yet I fear she will betray my cause: she is ever preferring some cross bill, which produces matters, and yet I do not sue in *forma pauperis*, being ready and willing to incoff you in a good jointure, and to this I will bind myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, by a deed in which you shall nominate trustees.

If I could but obtain a leading order to try my title; by even a jury of your own friends, I am certain I should obtain a verdict in my favor, and recover costs against you, for I have a good action, for attendance and loss of time; though upon a *postea* I do not think I could find it in my heart to issue a *ca. sa.* against you, or put you into any court but that of Hymen.

You have equity in your own breast, and from thence I hope relief. Decree that for me, and the day of essoign shall be that of your own nuptials.

A loving spouse once waited on a physician to request him to prescribe for his wife's eyes, which were very sore. "Let her wash them," (said the doctor,) every morning, with a small glass of brandy." A few weeks after, the doctor met the husband. "Well, sir, has your wife followed my advice?"—She has done every thing in her power to do it, doctor, (said the spouse,) but she never could get the glass higher than her mouth!"

A notorious rogue being brought to the bar, and knowing his case to be desperate, instead of pleading, he took to himself the liberty of jesting, and thus said, "I charge you in the King's name, to seize and take away that man in the red gown, (naming the Judge,) for I go in danger of my life, because of him."

Hats, Caps, & Buffalo Robes.

BYRON GREENOUGH,
Corner of Free and Middle-streets,

PORTLAND.

HAS just received his FALL STOCK—Comprising an EXTENSIVE ASSORTMENT of
HATS & FUR CAPS
of almost every description, which will be sold WHOLE-SALE or RETAIL, as low as can be purchased at any Store in this State—for Cash or approved Credit.
Purchasers will find it for their advantage to call.

Also—A few Bales Superior
BUFFALO ROBES,
WHICH WILL BE SOLD LOW.
N. B.—Cash and the Highest Price paid for
HATTING & SHIPPING FURS.
Dec. 1.

JOHN K. HALE,
NO. 1, MITCHELL'S BUILDINGS,
MIDDLE-STREET, PORTLAND,
HAS just received an Elegant Assortment
of

European, India & American
DRY GOODS,
WHICH WILL BE SOLD LOW, for Cash or approved credit.

Wanted,
From Twelve to Fourteen Hundred yards of
COUNTRY FLANNEL,
for which Goods will be given at the lowest Cash Price.
Oct. 27.

NOTICE.
THE subscriber having been unable to accomplish the proposed alteration in his business the present season, has received on consignment, the following articles:

Scotch and Tartan Plaids—Red, Green and Yellow Flannels—Satinets—Bombazettes—Caroline Fabrics, at thirty-seven and a half cents per yard—American Calicoes—English Calicoes, new style—Valencia and Cassimere Shawls—Bandanna, Flax, Black Silk, and Cotton Handkerchiefs—Cravats—Merino Points—Ruffs—Swiss Muslin Points—Laces—Ribbons—Sewing Silk and Twist—French Drills—Ferreets—Cambric and other Threads—Dimities—Tabby Velvets, various colors—Backran—Brown Linen—Worsted Hosiery—Quality and Shoe Binding—Italian Crape—Pressed Crape—Black and White Cambric—Muslins—Green Gauze, for veils—Reticule Cloths—Waist Buckles—Clasps—Hooks and Eyes—Watch Chains and Keys—Cloth, Head and Tooth Brushes—Lavender Soap—Coat and Vest Buttons, very low—Suspenders Buttons—Button Moulds—Cheap Whips—Whip Thongs—Japan Blacking—Blackball—Pomatum, &c. &c.

All the above with many other articles will be sold at prices which cannot fail to suit—for each only.
ASA BARTON, Agent.
Dec. 1.

POST-OFFICE NOTICE.

THE MAIL from this place to Portland, will be closed at 8 o'clock on Sunday and Wednesday evenings.—And the Mail from this place through Buckfield, Hartford, Livermore, Canton, and Sumner, at 8 o'clock, on Wednesday evening of each week—until further notice.
R. HUBBARD, P. M.
Post-Office, Paris, Dec. 1st.

MAINE FARMERS' ALMANAC for 1826.

FOR SALE at the Oxford Bookstore, by the gross, dozen or single, on the best terms.
Sold also—By Messrs. Morse & Hall, Maj. John Donnell, Lt. Ebenezer Drake, Jr., Jarius Shaw, Esq. Capt. Alfred Andrews, and Thomas Crocker, Esq. Thomas J. Loring, Esq. Zulus Long, Nathan Atwood and Nathaniel Harlow, Esq., Buckfield—John R. Briggs, Esq., Woodville—Moses Bartlett, Bellet—Messrs. Crocker & Crocker, Rumford—Lt. Richard Bartlett, Norway—J. Yrus Shaw, Esq., Hebron—and by Traders generally.
Nov. 16.

TAKE NOTICE.

CAME into the inclosure of the subscriber, about two months since, a *Last Spring CALE* of a dark friable color, with a white tail and one white hind leg. The owner is requested to prove prop. pay charges, and take it away.
JOSEPH JACKSON.
Paris, Nov. 23.

KINNE'S ARITHMETIC.

JUST published by GLAZIER & CO., and for sale at the Oxford Bookstore, a short system of
PRACTICAL ARITHMETIC
compiled from the best authorities; to which is added a short plan of

BOOK-KEEPING.
The whole designed for the use of Schools. By WILLIAM KINNE, &c. Fifth edition, improved, with Questions on every part of Arithmetic, and a comprehensive system of Tax Making. Revised, corrected, and greatly enlarged by DANIEL ROBERTS. Dec. 1.

JUST received, and for sale at the Oxford Bookstore, Anderson's Cough Drops—Deane's Rheumatic Pills—Lee's Family Pills, warranted to cure all colds—Thompson's Colic and Eye-water—British Oil—Peters' Compound—Liquor to cure Head-ache—Stomachic—Relf's Botanical Preparation—Relf's Asthma Pills—Court Plaster, &c. &c.
Dec. 1.

SPECTACLES.

JUST received and for sale at the Oxford Bookstore, a good assortment of **SPECTACLES**.
Nov. 16.

THE OBSERVER.

IS PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING BY
ASA BARTON,

For the Proprietors, at two dollars per annum, *payable in advance*.

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Advertisements consequently inserted, and on the usual terms.

All letters, addressed to the publisher, must be sent by Post Paid.